



# Michigan STEP Program

## 2014-2015

Michigan is once again offering the STEP program to fifth grade classes with the goal of educating 8,000 students statewide in the STEP curriculum during the 2014-2015 school year.

## Getting Involved

- All fifth grade classes in Michigan are eligible to participate in the STEP program, with the requirement that all fifth-graders in the school must participate.
- Getting involved is as simple as submitting an application to the Michigan State Police **by Friday, February 6, 2015**.
- Teachers or administrators may apply to participate in the STEP program on behalf of their school, although an administrator will have to approve participation in the program.
- Selection of school participants will be complete by late November.
- Once selected, STEP materials will be distributed to schools by the end of December.
- Instruction of STEP curriculum must be complete by the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

## Selection Criteria

In support of the program's objectives, schools will be selected to participate in the Michigan STEP program based on three primary criteria:

1. Participation of all fifth grade classes in the school
2. Geographic distribution throughout Michigan
3. Date of application submission

## In Step with STEP

Schools participating in the STEP program will be required to sign an agreement indicating all fifth-graders in the school (not just one or two classrooms) will be taught at least the core one-hour STEP curriculum. Schools are also required to participate in a survey evaluating the STEP program following completion.

## Teacher Testimonial

"After a recent ice storm in the area, my students experienced first-hand how important it is to be prepared for disasters. The program provided a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn what they could do in an emergency and help their families come up with a plan. The material was relevant and engaging. It provided my students with a sense of empowerment."

– Ann Yungfer, 5th Grade Teacher at  
Cole Academy, Lansing, MI

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Michigan State Police  
Emergency Management &  
Homeland Security Division



# FEMA



# STEP

**Student Tools for  
Emergency Planning**



# What is STEP?

The Student Tools for Emergency Planning program, known as STEP, is a simple and effective preparedness education project developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). STEP is designed to educate fifth-graders on the importance of preparing for emergencies and provide students with the knowledge to help their families prepare.

## Learning Objectives

- Students will learn general knowledge about disasters common to their area.
- Students will assemble emergency kits to help their families.
- Students will form communication plans with their families.

## STEP Curriculum

STEP lesson materials are ready to use as they were designed by teachers, for teachers. Materials include instructor guides, DVDs, copies of student handouts, and starter kit backpacks for all participating students. All materials are provided – at no cost to the school.

Teachers are required to dedicate at least one hour to teach the core lesson with streamlined objectives for a manageable time commitment in the classroom. STEP materials include up to 8 hours of optional lessons, to meet national standards and include math, language arts, science, and performing arts.

## Success of STEP

Michigan began offering STEP in the 2011-2012 school year, teaching more than 350 students. STEP continued growing statewide, with more than 5,800 fifth-graders learning the importance of preparedness during the 2013-2014 school year.

While only one-hour of instruction is required, some teachers choose to teach 5-8 hours of STEP lessons. If a school needs assistance with teaching the curriculum, they are encouraged to reach out to the STEP state coordinator, local first responders, or Citizen Corps volunteers.

## Every Student Gets a Starter Kit!

With Blankets, Flashlights and More!



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